INFORMATION LETTER

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CONGRESS SUMMARY

House Labor Committee Studying Various Hour and Wage Proposals

Further discussion of wage and hour legislation in the House Labor Committee, and consideration of suggested changes in the food and drug bill by the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce sub-committee were the main points of interest to canners in legislative activities during the past week.

Senator O'Mahoney, co-author of the O'Mahoney-Borah licensing bill and chairman of the Senate Judiciary sub-committee in charge of the proposal, announced that hearings on the subject will start March 1st. At the same time he made public a Committee print of the bill containing four principal changes from the provisions of the measure as introduced. These changes have been summarized by Senator O'Mahoney as follows:

"First, all corporations having gross assets of only $100,000 or less, are exempted. In the second place, the power of revocation of licenses for violation of the provisions set forth in the act is vested solely in the courts. Third, it is specifically set forth that no unlawful trust or combination shall be entitled to a license. Fourth, the provisions of the old bill expanding the membership of the Federal Trade Commission and directing it to make an immediate study of economic conditions with a view to recommending a stabilization program has been eliminated."

An analysis of the original O'Mahoney-Borah licensing bill appeared in the INFORMATION LETTER for December 30, 1937. Representative Mead of New York has introduced in the House a bill (H. R. 9589) identical with the modified O'Mahoney-Borah Committee print.

An undetermined day during the week of March 14th has been set for hearings on the Sauthoff bill (H. R. 6964), which would limit and define the sizes of fruit, vegetable, and milk cans.

Hearings on the long-and-short haul bill (H. R. 1668-S. 1356), which passed the House last April, were begun by the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee on Thursday. The bill would make unlawful a greater charge as a through rate than the aggregate of the intermediate rates and would place on the carrier the burden of establishing a lower rate reasonable and non-preferential.

Senator Bailey of North Carolina reported from the Committee on Commerce Senate Resolution 237 which would provide for a Senate Committee investigation of the "costs, prices, and profits of the principal commodities of our commerce." The resolution would authorize an expenditure of $25,000.

The Senate on Monday laid aside the anti-lynching bill by a vote of 58 to 22 and then took up and passed on Wednesday the $250,000,000 relief bill and a $2,000,000 appropriation for the control of insect pests and plant diseases. Both bills had received favorable House action. The Independent Offices appropriation bill was being debated in the Senate during the last half of the week. The House marked time until Friday noon, when the Interior Department appropriation was reported and general debate commenced.

With a number of entirely different approaches to wage and hour legislation before it, the House Labor Committee on Thursday continued a discussion of the subject. Although Mrs. Norton, Chairman of the Committee, did not make public two suggested drafts of a wage and hour bill she had prepared, it is generally understood that one would establish the 1934 N. R. A. code schedules of wages and the other would provide for a 40-40 wage and hour basis, both proposals to be administered by industry boards and an administrator having authority to grant exemptions.

Representative Ramspeck's proposal to give the Federal Trade Commission jurisdiction over unfair labor practices and a new American Federation of Labor bill, substantially the same as the Dockweiler-Griswold measure which, at the special session, was rejected as a substitute for the Committee bill, were also discussed by the Committee.

Following the meeting Thursday, Representative Hartley of New Jersey, who made the motion to recommit the labor bill during the special session, told the press that no two members of the Committee were in agreement. He added that he felt the situation within the Committee was a complete vindication of the recommittal action.

At the close of Friday's meeting, Chairman Norton indicated that she might appoint a sub-committee to draft a bill to be placed before the whole committee for consideration. The next meeting of the Labor Committee will be held on Tuesday, March 1st.

The food and drug sub-committee of the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce held meetings on Thursday and Friday at which various changes and suggestions that had been received since the issuance of Committee print No. 3 last summer were discussed. Chairman Lea hoped to have another print of the bill (S. 5) embodying the accepted changes available early next week.

F. S. C. C. TO BUY MORE PEAS

Offers Will Be Considered for No. 2's in All Grades Except "A"

Supplementing the purchase of approximately 700,000 cases of canned fresh peas recently made by the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation, and after a careful study of current market conditions, an additional purchase of a quantity of canned fresh peas will be made under authority of the Secretary of Agriculture. Purchases are intended to give canners an outlet for distressed lots of peas and to assist further in the stabilization of the canned pea market. The Corporation is now prepared to receive and consider offers of sale from canners. Canners have until March 7th to make offers to the Corporation.

Prices are to be f. o. b. canner's plant or plants indicated in the offer of sale. Cans, cartons or cases, and all materials required for canning, packing and shipping, except labels, are to be furnished by offering canners.

Offers of canned peas packed in No. 2 cans of U. S. Grade "B", "C" and Sub-standard will be considered. No Sub-standard peas will be accepted that score less than fifty (50) points or have a score of less than six (6) points for "clearness of liquor" or of which more than fifty per cent (50%) of the peas are split. All canned peas offered and delivered to F. S. C. C. will be sampled and graded by representatives of Canned Fruit and Vegetable Standardization and Grading Service of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Sampling and grading costs on all lots of peas accepted and delivered to F. S. C. C. will be paid for by F. S. C. C. Canners will be required to pay sampling and grading costs on any lot of peas which is not delivered to F. S. C. C. due to failure to meet grade requirements, at the rate of $5.00 per thousand cases. As in previous purchase, lots of peas tendered for delivery under contracts awarded will be rejected if they fail to meet the grade and size specified in canners' contracts.

Offers of sale should provide for delivery to be made during a thirty (30) day period beginning March 28, 1938, and ending April 26, 1938, both dates inclusive. The entire quantity of canned peas purchased as a result of this announcement must be delivered within the thirty day delivery period stated above.

THE 1938 FARM ACT

General Provisions of New Law Amending and Supplementing Soil Conservrtion Act

The Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, signed February 16th by President Roosevelt, amends and supplements the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act of 1936. New provisions of the Act concern measures for stabilizing supplies of five major farm commodities—cotton, wheat, corn, tobacco, and rice—by mandatory loans to encourage systematic storage of surpluses, National acreage allotments designed to provide ample supplies, marketing quotas to maintain orderly marketing during years of abnormal surplus, and crop insurance for wheat starting with the 1939 crop.

The Act seeks to promote a conservative and efficient use of National soil resources, and to provide consumers with adequate and stable reserves of food. It seeks to minimize extreme fluctuations in supplies and prices of farm commodities in interstate and foreign commerce and thus to stabilize and increase farm income and buying power.

To develop new uses and markets for farm products, the Act provides that not more than $4,000,000 annually shall be used for the establishment and maintenance of four regional laboratories—one in each major farming area.

H. R. Tolley, administrator of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration which will administer the principal provisions of the new Act, said that the present conservation and marketing program and the program developed under the new Act would combine to form one program—the AAA Farm Program.

"The new Act," he said, "amends the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act and hence will require some changes in the conservation program announced earlier for 1938, but in the main the conservation features of the AAA Farm Program will be similar to those in effect in the past. Farmers will continue to be paid for adopting soil-building practices and for devoting more land to soil-conserving crops and uses. In addition, the new Act authorizes parity payments but the funds for these are not available."

Those provisions of the new Act that supplement the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act are intended to stabilize farm marketing to avoid the harmful extremes of scarcity and wasteful excess. One of the new provisions calls for mandatory loans to farmers on stored commodities to enable them to withhold their surplus production from the market until that surplus is actually needed. Such loans apply to cotton, corn, and wheat. The loans have lower and upper limits of 52 and 75 per cent of parity price, and are to be made when specified surpluses are evident. The loans are to be made by the Commodity Credit Corporation, which may also make loans on other commodities at rates fixed by the Secretary of Agriculture. As a protection for the Government against price collapse of the crop collateral securing the loans, no loans are to be made on cotton, corn, or wheat if more than one-third of the producers voting have vetoed application of a marketing quota for that commodity.

Another provision, to be used in connection with marketing quotas, requires the release of storage supplies of corn to meet any shortage that arises either on the farm or in the county, or in any time of National emergency. The quotas must be adjusted or suspended to meet increases in exports or shortage in domestic supplies.

A third provision calls for crop insurance for wheat. Beginning with the crop harvested in 1939, such insurance is to be made available to wheat growers. Yields, not prices, are to be insured. The insurance will cover either 50 or 75 per cent of average yields, and the premiums, which may be paid in wheat, will vary with the coverage and with the wheat loss experience of the farm and county. Premium reserves must be held and indemnities paid in the form of wheat. This serves both as insurance protection to the grower and as a reserve wheat supply for the consumer.

The Act sets up a Federal Crop Insurance Corporation to administer the insurance program, and authorizes appropriation of $100,000,000 for capital stock and $6,000,000 for administrative expenses. Administrative and storage costs are to be paid by the Corporation, so that the wheat paid in as premiums can be used entirely for payment of losses.

Important to producers of the five major farm commodities are the annual acreage allotments and the conditional marketing quotas which supplement the Soil Conservation Program.

Of the five basic commodities, corn is probably the crop of most interest to canners and growers of canning products, because it is so generally a competing or an alternative crop to sweet corn for canning, or to tomatoes, beans or peas. Although provisions of the Act differ considerably for each commodity, it is believed that a better grasp of the new Act may be obtained by describing briefly the provisions that apply to field corn.

A corn acreage allotment, which is to be made annually by the Secretary of Agriculture, will apply only to corn produced in the commercial corn-producing area. It must allow for

an acreage such as will normally make available for market a supply of corn equal to 110 per cent of an average year's domestic consumption and exports (a total of about 2½ billion bushels). This allotment is to be apportioned among States and counties principally according to past acreages, and among farmers on the basis of tillable acres, crop-rotation practices, and nature of farmland.

A marketing quota is to apply in the commercial area, subject to positive veto in a referendum of producers, during any marketing year when the estimated total supply exceeds 110 per cent of the "normal supply", which is 107 per cent of an average year's consumption and exports. This supply would total about 2¾ billion bushels. The quota must make available for market a normal supply. Most of the remaining ear-corn is to be stored and withheld from market (unless the storage amount for a farm is less than 100 bushels, in which case storage requirements do not apply). Corn marketed out of storage amounts is subject to a penalty of 15 cents a bushel.

The provisions just described relate to field corn. Details of the conservation program that will be of particular interest to canners will be given in later issues of the INFORMATION LETTER.

Referenda Scheduled Under Agricultural Program

The first referenda under the new Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, to determine whether marketing quotas will be applied on cotton and tobacco, will be held on March 12th. Cotton farmers and producers of flue-cured, fire-cured and dark air-cured tobacco who grew commodities in 1937 will vote in each community.

Because of large carry-over supplies of cotton and of these types of tobacco, the Secretary of Agriculture is directed by the Act to determine whether producers want marketing quotas. If more than one-third of the producers voting in a referendum vote against the quotas, they will not go into effect.

No marketing quota will apply during 1938 to cigar filler and binder tobacco.

BEEF CATTLE SITUATION

Prices Expected to Average Lower Than During the Past Year

The general level of cattle prices in 1938 probably will average lower than in 1937, when the average price paid by packers for all cattle slaughtered under Federal inspection was $7.42 per 100 pounds, which was more than $1 higher than in 1936 and about equal to the average for the 10 years, 1924-33, according to the review of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics on the beef cattle situation. Although slaughter supplies of cattle in 1938 are expected to be smaller than in 1937, the effect of reduced supplies on prices probably will be more than offset by the weakness in consumer demand for meats.

Changes in prices of cattle of all grades during the remainder of 1938 will depend to a considerable extent upon changes which occur in the demand for meats. Although supplies of the better grades of slaughter cattle probably will increase during the rest of the year, it is possible that not much further decline in prices of such cattle will occur in the next few months in view of the sharp drop that has already taken place. In the second half of the year, prices of the better grades usually rise seasonally, and some advance may occur during this period in 1938 unless there is a further recession in business activity.

Prices of lower grades of steers and of slaughter cows may not change greatly during the spring months, although they usually advance during that period. Supplies of such cattle will be reduced seasonally during the first half of 1938, and probably will be smaller than a year earlier. The spread between prices of well-finished beef steers and the lower grades of slaughter cattle, however, is at present so narrow that there is little room for prices of the lower grades to advance unless some improvement also takes place in the prices of the better grades.

If feed crop and pasture conditions are about normal this year, the seasonal increase in slaughter supplies of cows and heifers during the summer and early fall months may be less than average as a result of the probable tendency for producers to restock herds reduced by drought in recent years. Hence, should business conditions improve, the seasonal decline in prices of the lower grades of slaughter cattle during the summer and fall months may not be very pronounced this year.

The number of cattle on farms January 1, 1938, was estimated at 65,930,000 head, a reduction of 518,000 head, or 0.8 per cent, from a year earlier. Changes in numbers during 1937 varied considerably among the various States, with numbers down in 17 States and unchanged or up in the others. Sharp reductions occurred in the States from Nebraska to Texas and increases in most of the other North Central States. The value per head on January 1st of $36.64 was $2.57 higher than a year earlier and the highest since January 1, 1931. The total value of $2,415,690,000 was about $152,000,000 larger than a year earlier and the largest since 1931.

The 24,902,000 head of milk cows (cows and heifers two years old and over kept for milk) on January 1st was 89,000 head, or about 0.4 per cent, below a year earlier and about 2,000,000 head below the record high number on January 1st, 1934. The value per head of $54.45 was $4.06 higher than a year ago.

The imports of canned beef during 1937 were larger than for any year in the last ten, totalling about 88,000,000 pounds, which was slightly larger than the total for 1936. The Bureau states that the 1938 imports will probably continue large, although the volume of such imports will depend to some extent on the European market for chilled beef from South America.

Canned Cheese Now on List of Army Provisions

The United States Army has made an initial purchase of canned cheese for shipment to the Philippine Islands Department, reports the U. S. Bureau of Dairy Industry. Similar purchases some time this month are contemplated for shipment to the Hawaiian and Panama Departments. The Army's decision to include canned cheese among the provisions in the commissary department was made after cooperative trials with the Bureau had demonstrated the popularity of the product at various posts.

CANNED FOOD EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

The following table, compiled from records of the Department of Commerce, show the quantity and value of the principal canned foods exported and imported by the United States during the month of December and the entire year of 1937, as compared with the preceding year. As will be noted the 1937 exports showed gains in all groups, while in imports there were increases in beef, tuna fish, crab meat, miscellaneous canned fish, mushrooms, and pineapple.

	Dec., 1936		Dec., 1937		Jan.-Dec., 1936		Jan.-Dec., 1937	
EXPORTS	*Pounds*	*Value*	*Pounds*	*Value*	*Pounds*	*Value*	*Pounds*	*Value*
Canned meats, total	1,689,642	$483,528	1,101,547	$346,303	13,348,323	$3,994,146	13,752,145	$4,078,574
Beef, corned, roast, boiled, hash, hamburger	255,538	90,018	85,203	26,239	2,028,551	625,977	721,642	191,756
Beef, other			142,068	50,135			1,986,914	687,873
Pork	921,340	315,598	573,228	214,101	7,936,926	2,656,309	7,127,077	2,457,062
Sausage	166,895	42,616	99,304	27,381	1,216,538	328,488	1,445,569	411,912
Other	345,869	35,296	201,744	28,447	2,166,308	383,372	2,470,943	329,971
Canned, vegetables, total	2,251,328	174,675	5,578,008	402,730	36,599,549	3,677,998	49,010,951	4,572,004
Asparagus	191,769	28,602	949,196	150,801	16,096,023	2,178,813	16,402,480	2,388,505
Baked beans and pork and beans	435,438	29,272	298,921	13,378	5,144,317	278,757	5,836,591	308,074
Corn	262,663	17,290	243,554	19,945	2,222,634	167,238	2,593,755	199,272
Peas	284,994	16,779	437,110	32,886	3,219,846	249,931	4,525,256	342,447
Soups	192,271	21,150	214,578	23,020	2,677,202	266,220	2,907,757	284,024
Tomatoes			111,594	7,390			2,017,472	126,526
Tomato paste	360,926	21,523	2,637,427	97,869	2,458,563	173,300	7,255,931	313,158
Tomato juice			222,715	15,940			3,425,997	245,715
Other	523,267	40,059	462,913	41,501	4,780,964	363,739	4,045,712	364,333
Condensed milk	188,887	25,404	1,457,556	180,907	2,370,032	278,091	7,972,424	972,117
Evaporated milk	1,489,478	118,296	2,037,025	144,631	23,560,959	1,743,757	22,874,432	1,659,237
Canned fruits, total	6,547,320	403,005	15,389,662	1,250,180	258,148,158	18,954,506	268,465,162	21,063,872
Apples and apple sauce	105,841	6,173	1,277,899	60,010	13,654,647	638,056	13,384,753	622,992
Apricots	47,854	4,027	1,032,207	77,431	23,669,403	1,727,536	22,260,175	1,721,446
Berries, other	14,481	2,481	94,690	11,901	1,117,882	130,621	1,141,322	130,684
Cherries	27,168	4,047	291,981	31,523	1,905,085	197,664	2,106,340	243,164
Fruits for salad	115,299	13,436	2,380,334	270,105	30,404,945	3,206,535	37,889,938	4,247,230
Grapefruit	5,456,157	305,577	2,213,390	143,698	29,368,433	1,782,036	32,182,861	1,742,364
Loganberries	582	78	81,300	7,702	3,826,741	283,200	959,551	84,464
Peaches	196,541	16,200	2,866,022	224,533	68,706,167	4,633,655	59,543,066	4,565,937
Pears	335,400	28,952	3,364,061	252,224	57,077,270	4,064,394	63,068,367	4,569,163
Pineapple	101,986	8,435	1,266,772	119,262	23,961,880	1,911,629	29,428,117	2,532,303
Prunes	146,011	13,599	104,417	11,507	4,455,705	379,180	1,334,110	119,378
Other			416,589	40,284			5,166,562	484,747
Canned fish, total	1,336,893	170,240	10,059,811	1,089,596	88,918,756	10,030,410	96,599,360	11,316,086
Mackerel	6,074	483	70,418	4,752	803,754	45,648	669,739	43,569
Salmon	28,352	7,308	2,796,419	491,424	38,892,896	6,404,358	37,978,553	6,654,801
Sardines	503,461	33,733	6,388,488	430,847	42,688,741	2,530,867	52,005,711	3,461,225
Shrimp	764,348	121,265	699,217	145,569	5,082,336	817,878	4,562,962	911,322
Shellfish, other	23,253	4,592	85,956	11,858	1,084,959	173,787	964,354	169,049
Other (other canned fish except shellfish)	11,405	2,859	19,313	5,146	366,070	57,872	418,041	76,120
IMPORTS								
Canned beef	1,779,804	172,329	3,355,407	341,648	87,919,868	8,430,524	88,087,133	9,172,123
Condensed and evaporated milk	139,129	6,663	125,730	6,367	2,244,787	98,148	1,553,952	69,968
Canned fish in oil:								
Sardines	2,296,936	312,416	2,183,061	312,005	35,787,399	4,610,427	28,727,105	3,842,951
Anchovies	229,294	73,026	248,901	129,576	2,434,192	833,596	2,170,033	865,194
Tuna	91,480	16,207	147,465	24,189	6,843,487	1,098,549	11,053,349	2,033,958
Other	30,627	11,641	54,527	15,620	711,993	195,242	820,632	221,361
Canned shellfish:								
Crab meat	162,865	56,074	247,896	86,984	9,018,724	2,927,547	11,156,566	3,675,665
Clams and oysters	22,603	3,761	82,353	16,822	1,152,977	249,119	988,303	191,156
Lobsters	57,425	34,862	25,997	9,769	864,915	470,822	834,416	417,822
Other canned fish	1,165,631	106,967	1,498,596	159,215	19,930,922	1,553,210	24,173,727	1,879,075
Canned vegetables:								
Peas	46,586	4,760	20,900	1,647	447,405	51,825	319,563	30,642
Mushrooms	63,010	17,583	118,028	29,694	461,575	144,355	999,678	278,235
Tomatoes	5,861,696	210,799	5,830,089	251,752	59,987,760	2,282,742	53,807,153	2,203,726
Tomato paste and sauce	686,180	57,434	539,678	42,553	8,967,443	787,903	8,941,718	650,909
Other	23,562	1,613	1,283,325	65,351	290,463	17,438	13,573,468	827,109
Canned pineapple, dutiable	950,642	37,812	1,055,577	49,377	11,714,880	567,965	18,738,506	954,304
Philippine Islands, free	208	20	3,791,233	194,586	8,156,448	340,970	26,559,034	1,286,521

THE HOG SITUATION

Factors Affecting Price Levels Analyzed by Agricultural Economics Bureau

Inspected hog slaughter from October through January was about 1.8 million head smaller than that of a year earlier, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Slaughter in this period was somewhat larger than was expected earlier, partly because a fairly large number of 1936 fall pigs were marketed after September; it is also possible that a considerable number of 1937 spring pigs have been marketed earlier than was anticipated.

In the annual outlook report for hogs, as summarized in November, it was indicated that inspected hog slaughter for the year beginning on October 1, 1937, would be between 32 and 33 million head. The 1937 fall pig crop, although slightly smaller than that of 1936, was estimated to be slightly larger than appeared probable when the November report was released. In view of the fact that the fall pig crop and October-January slaughter were both larger than had been expected earlier, it now appears probable that the number of hogs slaughtered under Federal inspection in the current hog marketing year will be about as large as the slaughter in 1936-37 of about 34 million head.

With the number of hogs slaughtered for the entire year 1937-38 expected to be not greatly different from that of 1936-37, slaughter from February through September this year probably will be larger than that of a year earlier. Most if not all of this increase, however, is expected to occur from May through September. Last year slaughter was very small during this period chiefly because a large number of fall pigs, which are normally marketed in that period, were marketed before May and after September as a result of the short supplies and high prices of feeds. The 1937 fall pig crop was only slightly smaller than that of 1936, but with much larger feed supplies fall pigs probably will be marketed in greatest volume during the late spring and early summer after a normal feeding period.

If total hog marketings during the next two or three months should be no larger than those of a year earlier as now seems probable, there will be a considerable seasonal decrease in hog marketings from January levels. Reports as to hog slaughter in the various regions indicate that a fairly large proportion of the 1937 spring pigs already have been marketed, and large marketings of fall pigs probably will not occur before April. But if the bulk of the fall pigs are marketed in the late spring and summer, there will be a fairly large seasonal increase in hog marketings after April.

During the remainder of the current marketing year the extent of the increase in hog marketings over a year earlier, particularly in the summer months, will depend partly upon crop conditions in 1938. Favorable crop prospects would cause the retention of increased numbers of sows for fall farrow, thereby reducing marketings somewhat, while unfavorable crop conditions probably would result in considerable liquidation of both sows and pigs.

In view of the expected seasonal decrease in hog marketings and the present relatively small stocks of pork on hand, hog prices may rise somewhat further within the next two or three months. But if the present weak consumer demand continues, prices probably will decline in the late spring and summer, when the market movement of fall pigs gets under way in large volume.

As hog marketings during the summer season are expected to be larger than a year earlier and consumer demand for hog products is likely to be weaker, the average of hog prices for the summer (May-September) probably will be considerably lower than the average of about $11.15 last summer.

The number of hogs on January 1, 1938, was estimated at 44,418,000 head. This was 1,470,000 head, or 3.3 per cent, larger than a year earlier and the largest number since January 1, 1934, but the number was still much below that of any year in the 30-year period before 1935. Nearly all of the increase occurred in the North Central (Corn Belt) States with numbers little changed in other areas. The value per head of $11.21 on January 1st was 68 cents lower than a year earlier and the total value of $498,025,000 was about $12,500,000 less.

SALMON TRANSPLANTS FAIL

Results of Experiments Emphasize Need of Conserving North Pacific Fisheries

Pacific salmon cannot be produced extensively in any part of the world except the North Pacific Ocean, according to studies recently completed by the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries. Efforts extending over half a century to establish runs of salmon on the Atlantic Coast of the United States and in South America, Europe, Australia, and Hawaii have met with failure in the majority of cases. Out of the many states and countries receiving shipments of salmon eggs from the Pacific Coast, only Maine, New Brunswick, Ontario, Chile, and New Zealand were able to develop natural runs of salmon.

Because transplantation is now known to be impracticable on a commercial scale, the Bureau of Fisheries points out that every effort must be made to conserve the salmon runs of the North Pacific if these fish are to be preserved as a permanent food resource.

The study made by the scientific staff of the Bureau shows that where transplanted salmon developed successful runs, natural conditions were similar to those on the Pacific Coast. Where salmon failed to survive, the fresh water or oceanic conditions were found to be unlike those where these fish are normally found. The Bureau's study of marine waters throughout the world showed that there are no extensive regions that provide conditions similar to those found in the North Pacific ocean.

As early as 1872 requests for live salmon eggs from many states and foreign countries had become so numerous that the Bureau of Fisheries (then the U. S. Fish Commission) established a fish culture station at Baird, California, on a tributary of the Sacramento River. From 1873 to 1930 this station formed the source of supply of millions of Chinook salmon eggs that were shipped to all parts of the world. Other fish cultural stations were later established in Oregon, Washington, and Alaska, and these stations also distributed millions of coho, sockeye, and pink salmon eggs to foreign regions.

Eggs of Pacific salmon were transplanted to the coastal streams of practically all the Atlantic coast states, including

states as far south as Georgia, Louisiana, and Mississippi. Shipments were sent to the Provinces of New Brunswick and Ontario and to England, France, Holland, Germany, and Italy. Thousands of eggs were also shipped to Argentina, Chile, New England, Tasmania, Australia, and Hawaii.

Out of these many attempts at transplantation, only the following were successful: Runs of pink salmon were established in the streams of Maine, Chinooks survived in the streams of New Brunswich and Ontario, Coho or sockeye salmon runs occur in the coastal rivers of Chile, and runs of Chinook salmon, which have now reached minor commercial importance, are reported from New Zealand.

Home Economics Division Activities

Miss Marjorie H. Black of the Home Economics Division leaves on a trip the week of February 28th that will take her to Ames and Des Moines, Iowa; Lincoln and Omaha, Nebraska; Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota; and Madison and Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

She will speak to the journalism class at Ames on March 1st, to the Des Moines Women's Club on March 2nd, and to the Des Moines Retail Grocer's Association on March 3rd.

While Miss Black is in Minneapolis she will conduct a forum on labeling the evening of March 9th, and will talk to the homemaking class of one of the large evening schools on March 10th.

March 14th at 10:00 a. m. she will be a guest speaker on the radio program of WHA at Madison, Wisconsin.

Reciprocal Tariff Concessions Withdrawn

By an exchange of notes at Managua on February 8, 1938, the Governments of the United States and Nicaragua agreed that, in view of the difficult financial situation with which Nicaragua is confronted, the reciprocal tariff concessions under the trade agreement which was signed March 11, and became effective October 1, 1936, shall cease to be in force on and after March 10, 1938, according to an announcement of February 11, 1938, by the Department of State, Washington. The remainder of the agreement will continue in full force, and the Government of Nicaragua has expressed its readiness to take up with the Government of the United States the question of the renewal or replacement of the deleted provisions as soon as it may be practicable for it to do so.

Winter Vegetable Exports from Cuba and Mexico

Exports of winter vegetables from Cuba to the United States from the beginning of the season in November to the end of January, 1938 were slightly less than in the same period in the preceding two seasons, reports the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Exports from the Mexican West Coast, on the other hand, were somewhat larger than in the same 3-month period of the 1935-36 and 1936-37 seasons.

Total exports from Cuba to the United States from November through January totaled 2,127 cars, of which 77 per cent was tomatoes, 10 per cent lima beans, and 13 per cent other vegetables. The remainder consisted of green peppers, cucumbers, eggplant, okra, and potatoes. Exports of winter vegetables from the Mexican West Coast through Nogales in the period under survey were 738 cars. Of this total tomatoes accounted for 67 per cent, green peas 19 per cent, green peppers 11 per cent, and all others 3 per cent.

Fruit and Vegetable Market Competition

Carlot Shipments as Reported by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Department of Agriculture

	Week ending—			Season total to—	
	Feb. 19,	Feb. 19,	Feb. 12,	Feb. 19,	Feb. 19,
VEGETABLES	1937	1938	1938	1937	1938
Beans, snap and lima	120	235	266	4,407	3,182
Tomatoes	484	555	547	3,787	3,414
Green peas	29	114	97	679	995
Spinach	382	429	406	4,533	3,809
Others:					
Domestic, competing directly	5,057	4,660	5,240	80,489	79,245
Imports competing—					
Directly	78	67	45	1,310	1,875
Indirectly	36	54	73	370	387
FRUITS					
Citrus, domestic	4,502	4,785	3,458	78,008	74,521
Others, domestic	146	229	258	18,275	18,172

Canners Admitted to Membership

Since January 8, 1938, the following firms have been admitted to membership in the Association.

Allen Fruit Company, Salem, Oreg.
Atlantic Canning Company, Atlantic, Iowa.
Bay Foods, Inc., Bay St. Louis, Miss.
Concord Foods, Inc., Concordville, Pa.
Dowlett Packing Company, Canutillo, Tex.
Mississippi Valley Canning Company, Osceola, Ark.
Onekama Packing Company, Onekama, Mich.
The J. W. Pratt Company, Farmington, Maine.
Frank Raiter Canning Company, Salinas, Calif.
Saukville Canning Company, Saukville, Wis.
Summit Products Company, Mt. Summit, Ind.
Toledo Cooperative Canning Company, Toledo, Iowa.
Valley Canning Company, Canutillo, Tex.

Florida Canned Citrus Shipments to West Coast

Shipments of Florida canned citrus products to Pacific Coast points in January, as reported by the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, were as follows: Grapefruit, 24,194 cases; grapefruit juice, 19,886; grapefruit and orange juice, 1,282; blended citrus juice, 4,061; orange juice, 30; citrus juice, 2,085; total, 51,538 cases.

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